

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

October 26, 1981

POLAND: Deployment of Troops

The Jaruzelski regime's initial plans for deploying special military groups throughout the country seem designed to avoid involving the Warsaw government directly in any volatile situations. [REDACTED]

Small units--perhaps composed of only three to four men--reportedly will be sent to some 2,000 villages to oversee the remaining harvest and to help prepare the country for winter. The government apparently will dispatch the first 800 groups today, perhaps without waiting for the accompanying teams of "government delegates." [REDACTED]

Warsaw probably wants to begin the new program without hitches by sending troops into the rural areas, where Solidarity's presence is relatively slight and popular respect for the military is high. Although the military should perform effectively in the conservative environment of the small towns, it may not be accepted as well in the larger cities. [REDACTED]

Solidarity has responded guardedly to the regime's action; the union stated that it will take at face value the government's claim that only economic problems are being addressed until "the facts prove otherwise." In Wroclaw in southwestern Poland, where mistrust of the regime's intentions is probably great because of the incident there last week, a Solidarity leader said that the troops may be favorably received if they can help ease food shortages. [REDACTED]

The government's decision apparently has had little dampening effect on local strike activity, which appears to be growing. Workers at a major factory in Warsaw have threatened to strike in support of a two-week sit-in demonstration by 12,000 textile workers. The continuing walkouts are a setback for Solidarity leaders, who had sought to have the local actions called off in favor of the general strike this Wednesday. [REDACTED]

The party Politburo, meanwhile, is meeting today to assess the situation and consider personnel changes to be presented at the Central Committee session on Wednesday. The leadership apparently has not yet decided

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who--if anybody--will replace Jaruzelski as premier, but Polish officials assert that there will be important changes in the party and government. The Politburo also may decide how far it wants to go in acting on Jaruzelski's proposal for a more broadly based "national unity government." [REDACTED]

Soviet Contacts With Solidarity

Moscow apparently has established contact with Solidarity, and may be in direct touch with union leader Walesa. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has confirmed that Soviet contact with the union exists but has provided no details. [REDACTED]

Soviet representatives in Poland reportedly have established contact with Walesa. [REDACTED]

The contacts suggest that the Soviets may be seeking the aid of union moderates in ending the political and economic crisis. [REDACTED]